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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
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RECORD POPCORN ACREAGE PLANTED THIS YEAR

The acreage of popcorn, running true to the inherent characteristic of the product itself, is really popping this year. Present indications are that by far the Nation's biggest acreage of record in 12 commercial States will be planted this year -- about 292,000 acres or 68 percent more than the acreage planted in 1944. Prior to 1944, the record was 105,200 acres planted in 1942. Unusually large increases are indicated in the planted acreage in most of the commercial producing States. Kentucky, however, expects an acreage decrease of about 26 percent below last year. The acreage in Nebraska, is $3\frac{1}{2}$ times that planted in 1944. Iowa, the top producing State, expects a 45 percent increase in planted acreage this year, while acreages in Ohio, Indiana and Oklahoma are indicated to be more than twice as large as those planted a year ago. It is evident that growers failed to plant their full intended acreage. Current estimates of the 1945 planted acreage relate primarily to acreage actually planted, with a minimum allowance for some still to be planted.

Abandonment of planted acreage is expected to average less than 6 percent of the total planted acreage in the 12 States combined, compared with about 4 percent in 1944. Based on current prospects nearly 275,000 acres will be harvested this year. This would be about two-thirds more than the acreage harvested last year. Iowa expects to harvest 70,000 acres this year, compared with the revised estimate of 50,300 acres harvested a year ago. In terms of acreage for harvest, Oklahoma ranks second only to Iowa, and expects to harvest 38,000 acres, over twice as much as in 1944. Indiana and Nebraska expect to harvest about 30,000 acres each this year, representing record acreage increases over those harvested the previous year.

In many sections of the producing areas, planting has been delayed by adverse weather. Considerable replanting has been necessary, further delaying the crop in many localities. Some acreage was lost because of floods in Oklahoma. The season in Missouri has also been very unfavorable. On the other hand, conditions have been very favorable in Nebraska. There will be no estimate of probable production of popcorn until December.

POPCORN 1/

State	Acreage					
	Planted		Harvested		For harvest	
	Average	1944	Average	1944	harvest	1945
Ohio	7,844	13,000	26,000	7,789	13,000	25,000
Ind.	7,833	12,800	30,600	7,811	12,800	30,600
Ill.	9,311	16,100	21,000	9,144	15,800	20,200
Mich.	3,044	3,000	4,000	2,908	2,400	3,500
Iowa	29,700	3/51,800	75,000	27,378	3/50,300	70,000
Mo.	2/5,857	11,800	17,700	2/5,600	11,500	17,000
Nebr.	5,389	8,800	31,000	4,089	8,700	29,500
Kans.	5,622	5,900	8,300	3,893	5,700	7,900
Ky.	1,589	13,500	10,000	1,533	13,500	10,000
Okla.	--	20,000	46,000	--	18,000	38,000
Tex.	5,478	15,000	20,000	5,311	12,500	20,000
Calif.	2/2,156	2,000	2,000	2/2,106	2,000	2,000
U.S.	83,728	3/173,700	291,600	77,418	3/166,200	274,700

1/ In principal commercial producing States. 2/ Short-time average. 3/ Revised.

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